

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michael D. Laufer et al.  
Serial No. : Unknown  
Filed : April 21, 2004  
Title : TISSUE RECONFIGURATION

Art Unit : Unknown  
Examiner : Unknown

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 35 USC §120, this application relies on the earlier filing date of application serial number 09/859,579, filed on May 18, 2001. The following references (listed in the attached Form PTO-1449's) were submitted to and/or cited by the Office in the prior application and, therefore, are not provided in this application.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 21, 2004

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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)  <b>Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)  (37 CFR §1.98(b))	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. <b>11898-005005</b>	Application No. <b>Unknown</b>
		Applicant <b>Michael D. LAUFER et al.</b>	
		Filing Date <b>April 21, 2004</b>	Group Art Unit <b>Unknown</b>

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	3,875,648	04-1975	Bone			
	AB	4,696,300	09-1987	Anderson			
	AC	4,705,040	11-1987	Mueller et al.			
	AD	4,809,695	03-1989	Gwathmey et al.			
	AE	5,015,249	05-1991	Nakao et al.			
	AF	5,645,552	07-1997	Sherts			
	AG	5,810,855	09-1998	Rayburn et al.			
	AH	6,152,935	11-2000	Kammerer et al.			
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
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U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	3,551,987	01/05/1971	J.E. Wilkinson			
	AB	5,088,979	02/18/1992	Filipi et al.			
	AC	5,433,721	07/18/1995	Hooven et al.			
	AD	5,465,894	11/14/1995	Clark et al.			
	AE	5,571,116	11/15/1996	Bolano et al.			
	AF	5,787,897	08/04/1998	Kieturakis			
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

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U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6,086,600	July 11, 2000	Kortenbach			
	AB	6,352,503	March 5, 2002	Matsui et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
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	AG						
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	WO 02/24080	March 28, 2002	PCT				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

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U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,254,126	10/19/93	Filipi et al.			
	AB	5,346,504	09/13/94	Ortiz et a.			
	AC	5,403,326	04/04/95	Harrison et al.			
	AD	5,558,665	09/24/96	Kieturakis			
	AE	5,573,496	11/12/96	McPherson et al.			
	AF	5,676,674	10/14/97	Bolano et al.			
	AG	5,810,882	09/22/98	Bolduc et al.			
	AH	5,887,594	03/30/99	LoCicero III et al.			
	AI	5,897,562	04/27/99	Bolano et al.			
	AJ	6,067,990	08/30/00	Kieturakis			
	AK	6,387,104	05/14/02	Pugsley, Jr. et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	EP 0 646 356 A2	04/05/95	Europe				
	AM	FR 2 768 324	03/19/99	France				
	AN	WO 99/22649	05/14/99	PCT				

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AO	International Search Report dated 10/16/00.
	AP	Carvalho PJPC et al., Fibrosis of gastric cardia after endoscopic sclerosis. Mechanism for control of experimental reflux? <i>Am Surg</i> 1990 Mar;56(3):163-6
	AQ	Contractor QQ et al., Endoscopic esphagitis and gastroesophageal flap valve. <i>J Clin Gastroenterol</i> 1999 Apr; 28(3):233-7
	AR	Hill LD and Kozarek RA, The gastroesophageal flap valve. <i>J Clin Gastroenterol</i> 1999 Apr;28(3):194-7.
	AS	Hill LD et al., Antireflux surgery. A surgeon's look. <i>Gastroenterol Clin North Am</i> 1990 Sep;19(3):745-75.
	AT	Hill LD et al., The gastroesophageal flap valve: in vitro and in vivo observations. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1996 Nov;44(5):541-7.

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	AU	Hill LD, Intraoperative measurement of lower esophageal sphincter pressure. <i>J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg</i> 1978 Mar;75(3):378-82.
	AV	Hill LD, Mythis of the esophagus. <i>J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg</i> 1989 Jul;98(1):1-10.
	AW	Ismail T. et al., Yield pressure, anatomy of the cardia and gastro-oesophageal reflux. <i>Br J Surg</i> 1995 Jul;82(7):943-7.
	AX	Kadirkamanathan SS et al., An ambulant porcine model of acid reflux used to evaluate endoscopic gastroplasty. <i>Gut</i> 1999 Jun;44(6):782-8.
	AY	Kadirkamanathan SS et al., Antireflux operations at flexible endoscopy using endoluminal stitching techniques: an experimental study. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1996 Aug;44(2):133-43.
	AZ	Mason RJ et al., A new intraluminal antigastroesophageal reflux procedure in baboons. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1997 Mar; 45(3):283-90.
	AAA	McGouran RC et al., Does measurement of yield pressure at the cardia during endoscopy provide information on the function of the lower oesophageal sphincter mechanism? <i>Gut</i> 1988 Mar; 29(3):275-8.
	ABB	McGouran RC et al., Is yield pressure at the cardia increased by effective fundoplication? <i>Gut</i> 1989 Oct;30(10):1309-12.
	ACC	O'Connor KW et al., An experimental endoscopic technique for reversing gastroesophageal reflux in dogs by injecting inert material in the distal esophagus. <i>Gastrointest Endosc</i> 1984 Oct;30(5):275-80.
	ADD	Rupp TH and Lehman GA, Endoscopic antireflux techniques. Endoluminal and lapaoscopic. <i>Gastrointest Endosc Clin N Am</i> 1994 Apr;4(2):353-68.
	AEE	Shafik A., Intraesophageal Polytef injection for the treatment of reflux esophagitis. <i>Surg Endosc</i> 1996 Mar;10(3):329-31.
	AFF	Slim K et al., Intraoperative esophageal manometry and fundoplications: prospective study. <i>World J Surg</i> 1996 Jan;20(1):55-9.
	AGG	Thor KBA et al., Reappraisal of the flap valve mechanism in the gastroesophageal junction. A study of a new valvuloplasty procedure in cadavers. <i>Acta Chir Scand</i> 1987 Jan;153(1):25-8.

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## U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	3,470,875	10/7/69	Johnson			
	AB	3,638,653	2/1/72	Berry			
	AC	3,842,840	10/22/74	Schweizer			
	AD	3,901,244	8/26/75	Schweizer			
	AE	3,946,740	3/30/76	Bassett			
	AF	4,006,747	2/8/77	Kronenthal et al.			
	AG	4,164,225	8/14/79	Johnson et al.			
	AH	4,235,238	11/25/80	Ogiu et al.			
	AI	4,448,194	5/15/84	DiGiovanni et al.			
	AJ	4,471,781	9/18/84	DiGiovanni et al.			
	AK	4,500,024	2/19/85	DiGiovanni et al.			
	AL	4,506,670	3/26/85	Crossley			
	AM	4,573,469	3/4/86	Golden et al.			
	AN	4,585,153	4/29/86	Failla et al.			
	AO	4,586,502	5/6/86	Bedi et al.			
	AP	4,591,085	5/27/86	Di Giovanni et al.			
	AQ	4,605,004	8/12/86	Di Giovanni et al.			
	AR	4,606,345	8/19/86	Dorband et al.			
	AS	4,627,437	12/9/86	Bedi et al.			
	AT	4,724,840	2/16/88	McVay et al.			
	AU	4,736,746	4/12/88	Anderson			
	AV	4,741,336	5/3/88	Failla et al.			
	AW	4,887,612	12/19/89	Esser et al.			
	AX	4,890,615	1/2/90	Caspari et al.			
	AY	4,935,027	6/19/90	Yoon			
	AZ	5,037,433	08/16/91	Wilk, et al.			
	BA	5,147,373	9/15/89	Ferzli			
	BB	5,222,963	06/29/93	Brinkerhoff, et al.			
	BC	5,356,416	10/18/94	Chu et al.			

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	BD	5,358,508	10/25/94	Cobb			
	BE	5,364,408	11/15/94	Gordon			
	BF	5,395,030	03/07/95	Kuramoto et al.			
	BG	5,441,507	8/15/95	Wilk			
	BH	5,447,512	9/5/95	Wilson et al.			
	BI	5,486,189	1/23/96	Mudry et al.			
	BJ	5,496,331	3/5/96	Xu et al.			
	BK	5,522,820	6/4/96	Caspari et al.			
	BL	5,549,618	8/27/96	Fleenor et al.			
	BM	5,571,090	11/5/96	Sherts			
	BN	5,624,453	4/29/97	Ahmed			
	BO	5,626,613	5/6/97	Schmieding			
	BP	5,662,683	9/2/97	Kay			
	BQ	5,665,096	9/9/97	Yoon			
	BR	5,697,940	12/16/97	Chu et al.			
	BS	5,722,421	3/3/98	Francese et al.			
	BT	5,725,524	3/10/98	Mulier et al.			
	BU	5,728,109	3/17/98	Schulze et al.			
	BV	5,735,861	4/7/98	Peifer et al.			
	BW	5,741,280	4/21/98	Fleenor			
	BX	5,749,898	5/12/98	Schulze et al.			
	BY	5,792,153	08/11/98	Swain, et al.			
	BZ	5,797,927	8/25/98	Yoon			
	CA	5,814,054	9/29/90	Kortenbach et al.			
	CB	5,826,776	10/27/98	Schulze et al.			
	CC	5,846,254	12/8/98	Schulze et al.			
	CD	5,853,409	12/29/98	Swanson et al.			

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Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	CE	5,855,311	1/5/99	Hamblin et al.			
	CF	5,893,592	4/13/99	Schulze et al.			
	CG	5,901,895	05/11/99	Heaton, et al.			
	CH	5,993,466	11/30/99	Yoon			
	CI	6,009,877	01/04/00	Edwards			
	CJ	6,051,003	4/18/00	Chu et al.			
	CK	6,059,798	5/9/00	Tolkoff			
	CL	6,113,609	9/5/00	Adams			
	CM	6,159,146	12/12/00	El Gazayerli			
	CN	6,179,840	1/30/01	Bowman			
	CO	6,221,084	4/24/01	Fleenor			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclasses	Translation	
							Yes	No
	CP	00/78229	12/28/00	PCT				
	CQ	EP 0 480 428	04/15/92	Europe				
	CR	EP 0 576 265	12/29/93	Europe				

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	CS	Boerema, M.D. , "Hiatus hernia: Repair by right-sided, subhepatic, anterior gastropexy," <u>Surgery</u> , 65:884-893 (1969).
	CT	Cecconello, "Esophagogastric Anastomosis with Valvuloplasty: An Experimental Study," <u>International Surgery</u> , 67:121-124 (1982).
	CU	Collis, M.D., "Surgical Control of Reflux in Hiatus Hernia," <u>The American Journal of Surgery</u> , 115:465-471 (1968).
	CV	Collis, M.D., "An Operation for Hiatus Hernia with Short Esophagus," <u>The Journal of Thoracic Surgery</u> , 34:768-778 (1957)
	CW	Cuschieri, et al. , "Multicenter prospective evaluation of laparoscopic antireflux surgery," <u>Surgical Endoscopy</u> , 7:505-510 (1993).
	CX	DeMeester, M.D. et al., "Nissen Fundoplication for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 204:9-20 (1986).

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	CY	Donahue, M.D., et al., "Endoscopic Control of Gastro-Esophageal Reflux: Status Report," <u>World Journal of Surgery</u> , 16:343-346 (1992).
	CZ	Donahue, M.D., et al., "Endoscopic sclerosis of the gastric cardia for prevention of experimental gastroesophageal reflux," <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 36:253-256 (1990).
	DA	Falk, et al., "Laparoscopic Fundoplication: A preliminary report of the technique and postoperative care," <u>Aust. N.Z. J. Surgery</u> , 62:969-972 (1992).
	DB	Hill, et al., "Surgery for Peptic Esophageal Stricture," 139-147.
	DC	Hill, M.D., "An Effective Operation for Hiatal Hernia: An Eight Year Appraisal," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 166:681-692 (1967).
	DD	Hill, et al., "The Esophagus, Medical and Surgical Management," <u>WB Saunders Co.</u> , 135-8 (1988).
	DE	Hinder, et al. "The Surgical Option for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," Symposium on Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease, <u>Am J Med</u> , 103:144S-148S (1997).
	DF	Ismail, et al., "Yield Pressure: A New Concept in the Evaluation of Gerd?," <u>AJG</u> , 91:616-617 (1996).
	DG	Jamieson, et al., "The development of surgery for gastro-oesophageal reflux disease," <u>Surgery of the Oesophagus</u> , 233-245 (1988).
	DH	Jamieson, et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 220:137-145 (1994).
	DI	Janssen, et al., "Prospective randomized comparison of teres cardiopexy and Nissen fundoplication in the surgical therapy of gastro-oesophageal reflux disease," <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> 80:875-878 (1993).
	DJ	Jennings, et al., "A Novel Endoscopic Transgastric Fundoplication Procedure for Gastroesophageal Reflux: An Initial Animal Evaluation," <u>Journal of Laparoendoscopic Surgery</u> , 2:207-213 (1992).
	DK	Kahrilas, "Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," <u>JAMA</u> , 276:983-988 (1996).
	DL	Kraemer, M.D., et al., "Laparoscopic Hill repair," <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 40:155-159 (1994).
	DM	Little, M.D., "Mechanisms of Action of Antireflux Surgery: Theory and Fact," <u>World Journal of Surgery</u> , 16:320-325 (1992).
	DN	Mason, et al., "Nissen Fundoplication Prevents Shortening of the Sphincter During Gastric Distention," <u>ARCH SURG.</u> , 132:719-726 (1997).
	DO	McGouran, M.D., et al., "A laser-induced scar at the cardia increases the yield pressure of the lower esophageal sphincter," <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 36:439-443 (1990).
	DP	McKernan, "Laparoscopic repair of gastroesophageal reflux disease," <u>Surgical Endoscopy</u> , 8:851-856 (1994).
	DQ	Nathanson, et al., "Laparoscopic Ligamentum teres (round ligament) cardiopexy," <u>Br. J. Surg.</u> , 78:947-951 (1991).
	DR	Nissen, "Eine einfache Operation zur Beeinflussung der Refluxoesophagitis," <u>Journal Suisse De Medecine</u> , 590-592 (1956)
	DS	O'Connor, et al., "Endoscopic placement of collagen at the lower esophageal sphincter to inhibit gastroesophageal reflux: a pilot study of 10 medically intractable patients," <u>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</u> , 34:106-112 (1988).
	DT	Pedinielli, "Traitement Chirurgical de la Herinie Hiatale Par La Technique du Collet", <u>Ann. Chir.</u> , 18:1461-1474 (1964). (English Abstract)

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	DU	Polk, et al. "Hiatal Hernia and Esophagitis: A survey of indications for operation and technic and results of fundoplication," <u>Ann. Surg.</u> , 173:775-781 (1971).
	DV	Rampal, et al., "Technique Chirurgicale, Traitement des hernies hiatales et du reflux aesophagien par la cardio-pexie avec le ligament round de foie," <u>La Presse Medicale</u> , 75:617-619 (1967).
	DW	Rich, "Simple GERD Treatment Offers New Alternative," (www.medicalpost.com website), March 1999.
	DX	Singh, et al., "Evaluation of the Endoscopic Suturing System in the Treatment of GERD," <u>DDW</u> , May 16-19, 1999.
	DY	Skinner, et al., "Surgical management of esophageal reflux and hiatus hernia," <u>Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery</u> , 53:33-54 (1967).
	DZ	Starling, et al. "Assessment of the Angelchik Prosthesis for Treatment of Symptomatic Esophageal Reflux, <u>World J. Surg.</u> 11, 350-355 (1987).
	EA	Tocornal, M.D., et al., "A mucosal flap valve mechanism to prevent gastroesophageal reflux and esophagitis," <u>Surgery</u> , 64:519-523 (1968).
	EB	Wang, et al., "A new anti-flux procedure: cardiac oblique invagination," <u>Chung Hua Wai Ko Tsa Chih</u> , Feb; 33 (2) 73-5 (1995). (English Abstract)
	EC	Watson, et al., "Comparison of anterior, posterior and total fundoplication using a viscera model," <u>Diseases of the Esophagus</u> , 10: 110-114 (1997).
	ED	Westbrook, et al., "Posterior Surgical Approaches to the Rectum," <u>Annals of Surgery</u> , 195:677-691 (1982).

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